pennsylvania musician
magazine

Vol.41 #489 July 2024

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FRIDAY JULY 26TH

06:00 - 06:30 - GO ON RED (PERFORMING BUSH)
06:45 - 07:15 - REALIGN (PERFORMING GODSMACK)
07:30 - 08:15 - T.B.D. (PERFORMING +LIVE+)
08:30 - 09:15 - ULTRAVIOLENT (PERFORMING GREEN DAY)
09:30 - 11:00 - SIN NYC (PERFORMING NINE INCH NAILS)
PERFORMING A SPECIAL WOODSTOCK 25TH ANNIVERSARY SET)

SATURDAY JULY 27TH

01:30 - 02:15 - BILL LUDLOW (PERFORMING WILLIE NELSON)
02:30 - 03:15 - BLACK KAT MAFIA (PERFORMING MIKE NESS)
03:30 - 04:10 - HUMAN CLAY (PERFORMING CREED)
04:25 - 05:00 - RASCAL REVIVAL (PERFORMING DAVE MATTHEWS)
05:15 - 06:00 - JAGGED LITTLE THRILL (PERFORMING ALANIS MORISSETTE)
06:15 - 07:05 - HATE GRENADE (PERFORMING LIMP BIZKIT)
07:25 - 08:25 - KNOW YOUR ENEMY (PERFORMING RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE)
08:45 - 10:15 - FADE TO BLACK (PERFORMING METALLICA)

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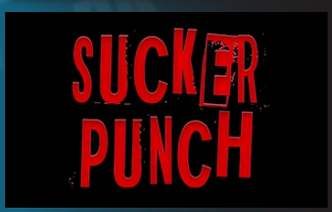
July Events

1- Trivia 6:30-8:30
2- Open mic 6pm till 9pm
3- Karaoke 6pm till 9pm
4- Community day at Lupfer's Grove starts at 12pm, Date Night, Colt Wilbur Band and more
5- Holly and Nick under the tent 6pm till 8pm, Shine Through the Shade 8pm till 11pm
6- Derek Sandstrom under the tent 6pm till 8pm, D-bo 8pm till 11pm
7- Slade under the tent 5pm till 7pm
8- Trivia 6:30pm till 8:30pm
9- Perry County Idol with Jim Mann 6pm till 9pm
10-Karaoke 6pm till 9pm
11-Free Jukebox and Pool 6pm til 9pm
12- Drew Adams under the tent 6pm till 8pm, Shawn Nelson 8pm till 11pm
13-Laura Laughman under the tent 6pm till 8pm, Sucker Punch'd 8pm till 11pm
14-Love Rocket acoustic under the tent 5pm till 7pm
15-Trivia 6:30pm till 8:30pm
16-DJ KJ Nelson 6pm till 9pm
17-Karaoke 6pm till 9pm
18-Bike Night and wet t-shirt contest 6pm till 9pm, open pole dancing 9pm till 11pm
19-Brandon Barnhart under the tent 6pm till 8pm, Roadcase 8pm till 11pm
20-Steve Dincau under the tent 6pm till 8pm, Heads of Tails Experience 8pm till 11pm
21-Carmine Gontz under the tent 5pm till 7pm
22-Trivia 6:30pm till 8:30pm
23-DJ KJ Nelson 6pm till 9pm
24-Karaoke 6pm till 9pm
25-Free Jukebox and Pool 6pm till 9pm
26-Phil Cannzzaro under the tent 6pm till 8pm, Matt Bowman 8pm till 11pm
27-Pops Birthday with Bikini Bike Wash 1pm till 5pm, Double D DJ's 8pm till 11pm
28-Thom Lewis under the tent 5pm till 7pm
29-Trivia 6:30pm till 8:30pm
30-DJ KJ Nelson 6pm till 9pm
31-Karaoke 6pm till 9pm



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pennsylvania musician magazine

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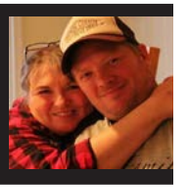
EDITOR RAMBLINGS
By Josh Noll



Hello, music lovers far and near! Welcome back for another issue of PA Musician Magazine. Summer is kicking into overdrive, and by the time you're reading this, the fireworks will be lighting up the sky as we once again celebrate our independence. July is here, bringing with it the summer heat wave and a ton of fun under the sun. Let's get started!

If you've been following The Rachel Rocks Saga, you might have heard about or even spotted some Buffalo sightings. Well, that Buffalo is actually "Hank The Buffalo." Who is Hank the Buffalo, and what's all the fuss about? Is it three guys with beards playing acoustic jams, sometimes a duo, sometimes a solo? Is it a Buffalo with a little dog sidekick? Is it a band or a myth? To find out more about the legend of "Hank The Buffalo," check out Rachel's article and the new ad on the following page. They have a month full of events where you can discover it all for yourself. Catch them at Jimmy Jaxx on the 4th, Horn Pub on the 5th, Falls Crab Shack on the 6th, Howdies & Hops on the 13th, and Boomerangs on the 27th. Stay up to date on all shows at facebook/hankthebuffalo.

If the outdoor heat is too much, head down to Lovedraft's Brewing Co. Starting with a 717 Entertainment event featuring Dramascream & Magg Dylan with special guests Burden of Guilt and Look Back Luna on the 11th, followed by The Supersuckers with The Lords of Altamont & The Ravagers on the 12th. On Monday the 15th, it's Awake at Last with American Dream Machine, Above The Snakes, Making a Mockery, and Devil in Disguise. But wait, there's more! 717 Entertainment presents a two-day Woodstock Tribute Festival on July 26th and 27th. This indoor festival will celebrate the 25th & 30th anniversaries of Woodstock, featuring tribute bands performing music from those iconic years. Enjoy tunes by Bush, Godsmack, Live, Green Day, NIN, Willie, Alanis, Limp Bizkit, Metallica, and more, all performed by your favorite local bands. Check out the full-page flyer on page 2 for all the details and make plans now! And that's not it—Nick is also bringing in HINDER with Kingdom Collapse and August Winters on the 28th.

WOW! If you're looking for some outdoor summer action, don't miss the "Summer Beat Music Festival" on August 10th at Little Buffalo State Park. Hosted by the Abundant Harvest Church, this event will feature local Christian worship bands. It's an all-day FREE event with food trucks on site for drink and food purchases. Bring a chair and enjoy a day in the beautiful state park with a lake, pool, hiking trails, and a gorgeous amphitheater-style stage. Bands will play from 10 am to 6 pm, including Redeemed, Evidence Worship Band, Prepare The Way, River of Life, Cross Keys Worship, Band of Believers, and Life Or Death Worship Band.

Of course, the Briggs Farm Blues Festival is happening July 11th-13th. This festival is one not to miss! Get your tickets now—go for a day or camp all weekend. It's a great family-friendly event with world-class and local artists. I'll be camping out this year, so if you see me, stop by and say hi! I can't wait. I need a couple of days relaxing and listening to great music.

Well, that's a wrap for the July issue. Go through and find some things to do—get out and enjoy the summer. Before we know it, the leaves will be changing, and you'll wish you had done more. Life is short—make the most of it. Go for a walk, take a hike, go for a ride on your bike, or in your shiny sports car. Get out and see the world, experience some new music, or maybe a new venue. Whatever you do, make it count because we only get one trip, so make it a good one. Tune in next month for more life lessons and local music. Love you all. Give me a call at 717-636-4203 or email Joshnoll@pamusician.net.

Hank The Buffalo "Live' photo by Rachel Rocks

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Sat. 7/13-Thirsty Farmer, Biglerville, PA, 2:30-4:30
Sat. 7/13-Back Porch Brewing, w/Dave Gates, 7-10pm
Sun. 7/14-Wolf Brewing, Mech. PA, 11am-2pm
Wed. 7/17-South County, York, PA, 6-9pm
Thurs. 7/18-Beerded Goat, Harrisburg, PA, 6:30-9:30
Fri. 7/19-MD Mallet, Westminster, MD, 7-10pm
Sun. 7/21-Sherwood Inn, York New Salem, 2-5pm
Wed. 7/24-OPEN MIC, Blue Sky, 6:30-8:30pm
Fri. 7/26-Private Event
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Sun. 7/28-Quentin Tavern, Lebanon, PA, 5-8pm
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7.4 Jimmy Jaxxx Bike Night 6-9 pm
7.5 Horn Pub 8-11 pm
7.6 Private Party 5-7:30 pm
7.6 Falls Crab Shack 9 pm-12 am
7.13 Howdies & Hops 12-2:30 pm
7.27 Boomerangs 6-9 pm
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08-03-24: Appalachian Harley-Davidson, Mechanicsburg, PA
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Megan and Dave
July Shows
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The Creekside at Liberty Forge
Friday, July 19 (Trio Show)
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Hook and Flask Still Works
Friday, July 26
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7/19: The Circle-Hanover-7-10

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STEEL

TOUR SCHEDULE

Fri 7/5 River Bend (Members only), Falling Waters, WV 7pm
Sat 7/6 The Funny Farm, Berkeley Springs, WV 8pm
Sun 7/14 Battlefield Harley Davidson, Gettysburg , PA 12pm
Fri 7/19 Race Horse Tavern, Thomasville , PA 8pm
8/10 River Bend (Members only) Falling Waters, WV 7pm

facebook.com/SteelRocks

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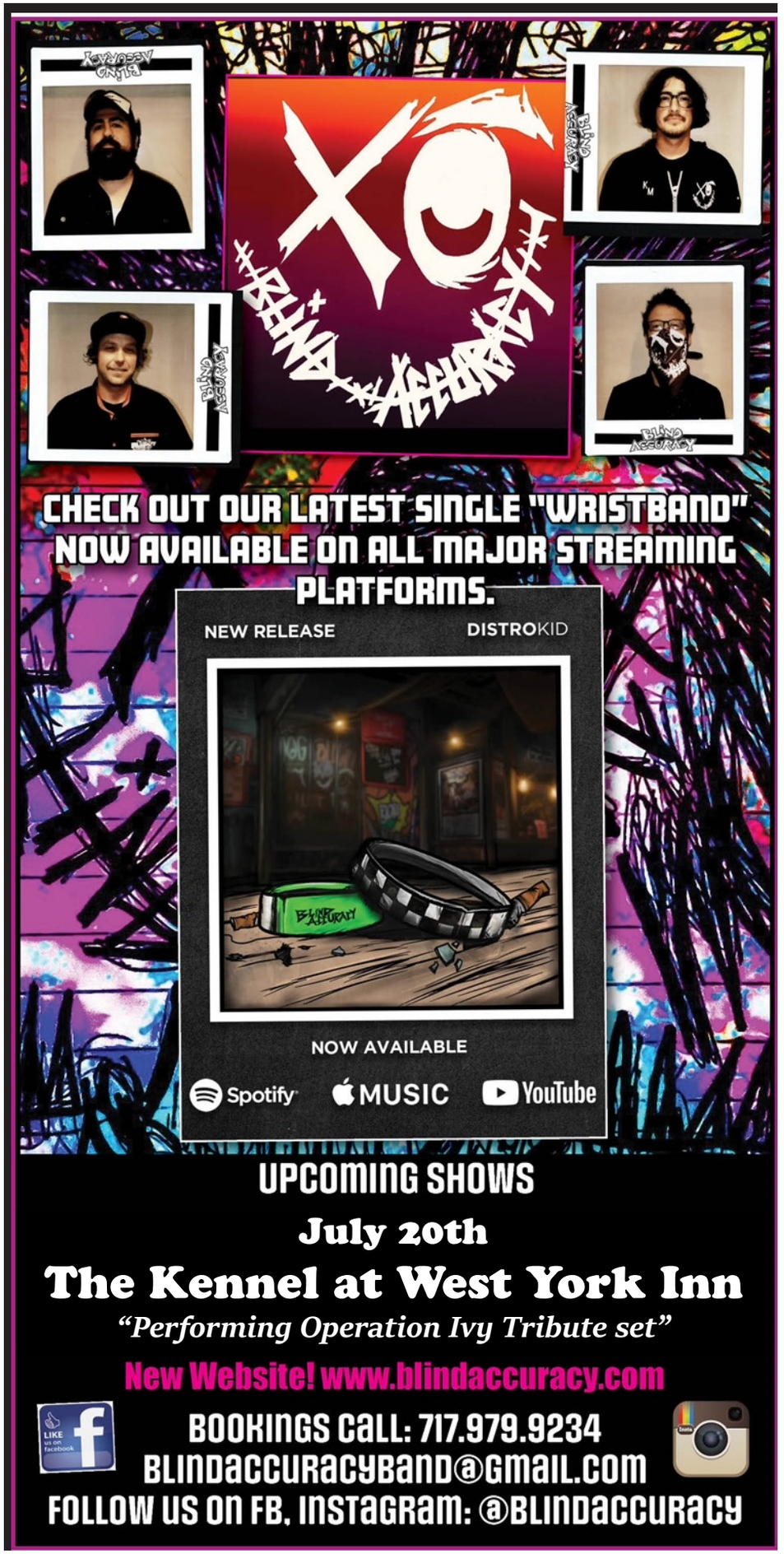

OUT 'N' ABOUT

By Rachel Rocks

Wow! June was a LONG month! And it's still not quite over as I'm typing this. A lot happened in my life, and a lot of music was heard! It's kind of crazy how much can happen in your life in just one month!

Shine Delphi at a Backyard Party

The month started off with a few Matt Jameson shows, and one of those was an awesome private party where Shine Delphi was also playing. Matt texted me while I was out delivering the mags and said get here and enjoy this show! I haven't seen Shine in a very long time, and it was super awesome to hear him play again. Shine can put a smile on anyone's face. The stories he tells while he's playing are hilarious, and his laugh is so infectious! Shine is still cranking out original music! If you haven't heard of him, or ever checked him out, do yourself a favor, and Google him now! Thanks to Erin and Steve, the party hosts for letting me crash the party! Happy Birthday Steve!

I actually didn't even stick around for Matt's part of the private party because I wanted to get over to Lovedrafts for iRock Radio's 10th Birthday Bash! I was super happy to see how jam packed Lovedrafts was. I haven't seen a crowd like that, there or anywhere, in a very long time. It was awesome to see so many people showed up to support Jay Hunter and the whole iRock Radio team. I made it in time to catch the set of Another Day Dawns. Jay planned an amazing super full day of awesome bands. They had two different stages, the main rockin' stage and an acoustic stage on the patio. That was a great idea! I heard all of the bands were amazing. I can't handle large crowds in such small spaces, so I didn't stick around long! Congrats to iRock Radio on their 10 Year Anniversary!

Next, I zoomed over to Copper Pub to see Hank the Buffalo. My friend Cindy was working at the Pub that night, but that didn't stop us, we managed to still dance a little bit! Luckily Megan and her hubby were also there to enjoy the show so I was able to hang out with them and listen to the guys play out on the deck on a beautiful Saturday night. Keara Rose from Whiskey Horse was also in the crowd and she came up and sang some songs with the guys. She has one heck of a voice! I actually saw Hank the Buffalo four times this month, and every time they had a different configuration of their group. They can play as a 3 piece with a cajon, just a 2 piece, 3 piece with full drums, they can add in keys, etc. They are very versatile and can fit it any situation where you need them! Their tag line they like to say Be the Buffalo, and I added in the line, if you can't Be the Buffalo, at least eat the meat!

Hank the Buffalo at Appalachian Harley Davidson

Stephen found some Buffalo Jerky Sticks and brought some out to their show, so I could literally Eat the Buffalo! Too funny! It was actually very tasty! Also, a big shout out to Hank the Buffalo for joining the cool kids group and becoming an advertiser! We greatly appreciate the support.

Matt Jameson was back out on the train wreck deck at Flinchy's, but this time it was for Sunday Funday. Flinchy's recently started having music from 2-5pm on Sundays. It's such a perfect time! Late enough so you don't have to jump out of bed and rush around, but yet early enough you can still get home and mentally prepare for the work week ahead. Matt had the train wreck deck packed. It's hard to believe he's not back on the deck til September 11th! His schedule was jam packed til they were ready to break open their schedule book. He's got plenty of other shows booked all over the place though. You can check out his full July schedule in this issue, or see all of his dates for the rest of the year and beyond on his website, www.mattjamesonacoustic.com.

Stephen Robert, Me, & Chuck Britton at Flinchy's

One big event that happened in our family was my son Mason's High School Graduation. He graduated from Central Dauphin High School. We are so incredibly proud of him and all of his classmates. It's hard to believe my baby is now released into the real world. I can't wait to see where life takes him and support him along the way! We love you Mason!

There is lots of live music and shenanigans throughout New Cumberland on the 2nd Thursday of every month. This Thursday fun started with Megan and Dave rockin' out by the food trucks! It was a super hot night, and Megan and Dave were heating it up even more! They had a nice crowd of family and friends, and of course plenty of people enjoying the food trucks! Megan and Dave can play songs from at least 6 decades of music! They play such a wide variety of songs you just never know what they're gonna play next! After I listened to their set it was time to walk to Wild Rabbit Pies & Pints for Derek Henry. On our way there we heard Neil McClain playing outside Moss Creek Art. Neil is a New Cumberland staple, it seems like pretty much every time I see him he's playing in New Cumberland somewhere! After hearing Neil we headed in to Wild Rabbit for Derek. Wild Rabbit has a cool set up for music, food, and some fun with a game room with Pinball, Skeeball, and other fun games! When Megan and Dave were done with their show they even packed up quick and came to the WIld

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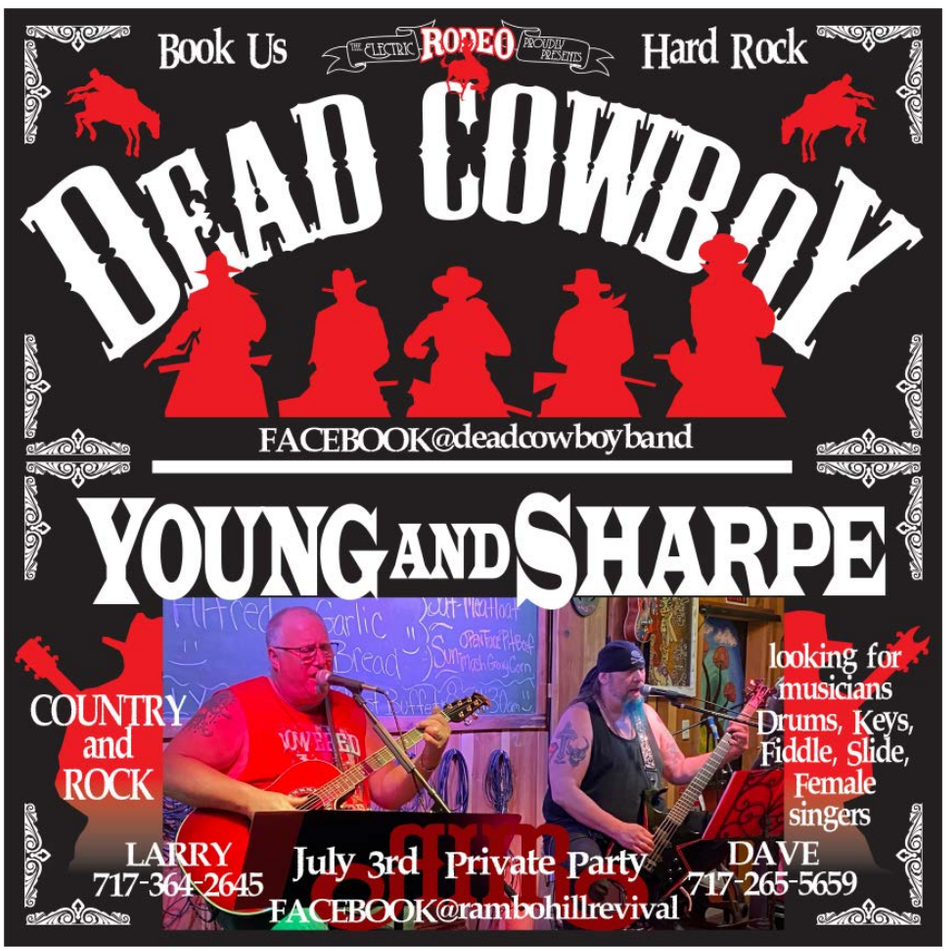

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Addi Grace at The 1762 at Warwick Hotel

Rabbit to enjoy Derek and the air conditioning! Derek had a great crowd and everyone was packed in the bar area to hear the music.

On a Friday my night started early with a trip into Hummelstown to The 1762 at the old Warwick Hotel for Addi Grace. Her set started early so I swung in on my way home from work. Addi Grace continues to impress me. She's just released her 2nd Original song, "Once." Her songs are so well written and so catchy! Check them out on all of the streaming platforms. Addi's stage presence and her song selection are top notch. Her shows are tons of fun, and something you definitely don't want to miss!

Next I zoomed down the street to The Wharf for my first sighting of Morning Glory. Megan from Megan and Dave is their lead singer and I love her voice, so I thought I'd go check them out. Her band mates also sing lead on a few songs, so they were able to cover even a bigger variety of music. It was cool to see and hear Megan with a full rockin' band!

The next stop was at Duke's in Wormleysburg for Deep Space 90s. I haven't seen them for quite a while and they now have a whole new line-up with not one, but two main lead singers, Mandi and MIchael. Both of them bring a crazy amount of energy to the stage! Plus their harmonies and the way they support each other through the songs is pretty awesome! Not to mention they still have Joe and Craig singing songs too, and filling in wherever they can. It's one heck of a show and who doesn't love the 90s!

The last show of the night was Flinchy's for Hank the Buffalo. Flinchy's has live music til 11:00pm on Fridays and Saturdays, so it's a great place to end the night. It still seems strange to me that 11:00pm is the end of the night! Every now and then you can find someone playing til midnight, but that is very rare! Hank the Buffalo had the deck rockin' it's awesome to see these guys gaining so many new followers. Their stampede is growing! Again, check out their ad in this issue where you can see where you can go to join the herd!

Saturday I was invited out to Cape Carl to celebrate Keirstin's Birthday! They hired Matt Jameson as their entertainment, and it was one heck of a party! It was my first river island experience. I can't believe the full houses people have on those islands. It's super cool! It was an absolute perfect day with friends, music, puppies, the river, and even a baby! Not only can Matt perform his solo acoustic music, but he can also play the role of a DJ, and host karaoke! He's definitely become a one man party band! He's been having so much fun doing the private parties! If you need someone who can do it all! Give Matt a call! Matt also shared his guitar with Jim Horn, the old lead singer from Deezle Church. I challenged him to crank out their original song, "Don't **ck with a Hillbilly" and he nailed it. I was impressed! Happy Birthday Keirstin! Thank you so much for having us all out there for one heck of a party!

Deep Space 90s at Duke's

After a week-long asthma attack I was scrolling Facebook and saw that Michele was hanging out at SpringGate listening to music, and I decided to escape and get out of the house! When I got there Love Rocket was on stage. It was my first time experiencing the full band! Oh my goodness, it was SO much fun! Maybe it's because of being cooped up for so long, but we were having a blast dancing and singing along! They played a lot of 90s music, and again I love the 90s! Love Rocket has been launching their way into people's hearts throughout the midstate and beyond for a while now. If you haven't seen these guys yet, I highly suggest that you do!

I had a long crazy Sunday Funday! It started with Wolf's Brewing Company for brunch with Matt Jameson, then off to Appalachian Harley Davidson for some more Hank the Buffalo, then to Snitz Creek in Annville for Roger Bowyer. I haven't heard him

Love Rocket at SpringGate

play for so long. It was awesome to hear him rockin' his heart out! After hanging at Roger's show for the first set it was then back across the river to LoveDrafts for Coal and Observe the 93rd opening for KemikalFire. Coal started the night off. These guys are getting more addicting every time I see them! All of their originals are very catchy, and quickly get people's attention. Observe the 93rd did a great job keeping the music rolling and the people were captivated by their awesomeness! The last band of the night was KemikalFire. This was a 2-man power group! Taylor Carroll of Lit on Guitar and Arejay Hale of Halestorm on drums. Their sound is so unique, their harmonies, their singing, their playing.. It was all top notch, and made for one heck of show. It was only KemikalFire's 2nd show ever, and they only had two more stops in this tour, but hopefully these guys find the time to keep creating together. Arejay even switched rolls and let Taylor take over on drums for a song! It was crazy! I'm so glad I squeezed this show into a busy day!

On a whimsical Wednesday I scooped up Zack, who is still home trying to figure out his van situation before he leaves for the Wild West. He left once, but was back a few hours later with car issues, I'm sure he will leave me again soon, and I can cry all over again. It's tears of happiness and sadness. My baby is getting all grown up!

Our first stop on our tour was Fenderz Bar & Grill for Derek

continued on page 11..

KemikalFire w/ Arejay Hale on drums at LoveDrafts

Henry. He does whatever he can to make his fans happy! He literally even sang "Old MacDonald" for a little boy that was eating dinner with his family! So cute! He of course also sang Pixies for me. We had our cheap smash burgers and fries, and then it was off to Sherwood Inn for some

continued on page 12.

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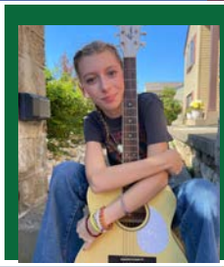

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ADDI GRACE

Sunday, July 21st - 5-8pm
SHAWN NELSON

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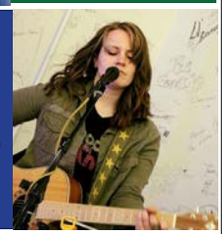

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Out & About continued...

Crash & Cross. This was their first time at the Sherwood. Crash came down for a Matt show earlier in the month and sang a couple songs with Matt, and Michelle was there, and just so happened to have this date become available so she filled it in with Crash and Cross. When I got there people were already sitting through the bar wearing the new Crash and Cross merch! I was sad because my size was already sold out! Snooze ya lose friends! I was glad to see everyone loved these guys, because how can you not! They are also new advertisers, and you can check out their schedule in this issue. We are extremely grateful for the support and love! The last stop of the night was over to South County for Matt Jameson who had Colin Alvarez playing lead guitar with him. It's always cool hearing Colin laying down the licks! South County are big Matt fans and he always has that place hopping! All in all it was a great night of music, and I'm glad I could spend that special time with Zack. I'm really gonna miss my Zacky Tiger!

Well that's a wrap for this month. I'm literally gone 3 weekends in July, so you'll see me bopping around during the weeknights. If you have a show happening Tues-Thurs in July, let me know! Email me at RachelRocks@pamusician.net. I also wanted to give a shout out to a few of my friends who joined the sobriety train! It's pretty awesome when I hear the new Blue Moon NAs are sold out at Flinchy's, or they are out of Guiness 0. It's awesome knowing I am not alone! Have a great month everybody. If you see me Out & About please stop me and say Hi! And most importantly if you go see a musician, make sure you give them a tip! Or at least tell them Rachel Rocks sent you! Now get out there and Support Local Music and the venues that support them! Don't forget to check out our website, www.pamusician.net.

NATIONALS

By Eric Hoffman

Greetings Rockers 'N' Rollers! Summer has finally arrived, as well as countless Summer tours. Hollywood Casino in Grantville began their Summer season with Bush and Daughtry on June 1 and also had Rick Springfield and Richard Marx on June 14. Harrisburg University Presents also began their Summer shows at Riverfront Park on June 21 with Jenny Lewis and June 23 with Fleet Foxes. Brooklyn-based synthpop band, Nation of Language, played an incredible sold-out show at Washington DC's 9:30 Club on June 16. I first discovered the band when they opened for Beach Fossils at XL Live on April 26.

The Rolling Stones turned in a solid performance at Lincoln Financial Field on June 11 in Philadelphia. The "World's Greatest Rock and Roll Band" two-hour show produced an amazing set list of gems "Start Me Up," "It's Only Rock n Roll (but I like it)," "Let's Spend the Night Together," "Sympathy for the Devil," and "Satisfaction." Their "Hackney Diamonds" tour consisting of 18 North American shows wraps up July 17 in California. Singer, Mick Jagger, will turn 81 on July 26. Cosmic Psychos (from Australia) also played Philadelphia on June 19 for a memorable performance at the awesome Kung Fu Necktie.

This past month's highlight included a week-long trip to Los Angeles for several concerts and musical sights. Great shows including Raveonettes and Plague Vendor and the No Values Festival, which turned out to be the biggest punk/hardcore festival in U.S. history with over 40,000 in attendance. The event held on June 8 featured 42 bands on 4 stages including: Misfits, Iggy Pop, L7, Turnstile, The Bronx, Viagra Boys, Fidlar, Sean Wheeler (Throw Rag) among others. Two new band discoveries that day were Power Trip and Ceremony - both had unreal performances. A few musical destinations involved: Sam Cooke's home, Tina Turner's home, Eazy E's childhood home in Compton, Marilyn Manson's home, Ryan Adams' Pax-Am recording studio and Glenn Danzig's home.

Sean Wheeler of Throw Rag

Jane's Addiction (with their original band members) and Love And Rockets are heading out on a co-headline tour in August and September, with dates at Hard Rock Live at Etess Arena in Atlantic City, NJ on Sept 7 and The Rooftop at Pier 17 in New York City on Sept 10. The 25-date tour begins Aug 9 in Las Vegas. Jane's Addiction supported The

continued on page 13..

Nationals continued...

Smashing Pumpkins last year in Australia and Love And Rockets headlined theatres last summer.

Eagles announced 16 dates at Las Vegas' boundary-breaking Sphere, with the legendary band set to play from Sept. 20 to Dec 14. The announcement confirms a year of rumors that Eagles would eventually play the new venue. Eagles will perform at Sphere for eight weekends. Highlights from Eagles' current tour include two sold-out shows at Chicago's United Center in March and they performed four sold-out shows at Los Angeles' Kia Forum in January. Dead & Company have also added six shows in August to its summer-long residency at Sphere in Las Vegas. Bringing the total number of shows to 30. Dead & Company's Sphere run began May 16. Reviews have created a buzz among the Deadhead community for a one-of-a-kind experience that taps into the Grateful Dead's legacy of matching the songbook and lore with cutting-edge technology and visual art. Dead Forever — Live at Sphere, is one of the most psychedelic experiences that can be had without mind-altering substances of any kind.

George Strait set a record for the largest single ticketed concert in U.S. history, with 110,905 in attendance for his June 15 show at Texas A&M Kyle Field with guests Parker McCollum and Catie Offerman. The total surpasses the reported 107,019 Deadheads in attendance at their 1977 show at Raceway Park in New Jersey. The Rolling Stones played a 2003 outdoor event at Downsview Park in Toronto that drew almost 500,000 to a paid show but, in the U.S., Strait has the record. A statement from Strait said that demand for the show had an economic effect in College Station's west-central Texas region, too, "filling every hotel, bed & breakfast, and Airbnb within a 40-mile radius."

Brandon Blaine of Plague Vendor

Scooter Braun will end his illustrious career as a music manager to focus on his role as CEO of Hybe America. Braun, who has managed, among others, Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, Carly Rae Jepsen, Dan + Shay became CEO of Hybe America in 2021 when Hybe acquired his company Ithaca Holdings in a deal estimated at $1.05 billion. Ithaca became widely known in 2019 when it acquired Big Machine Label Group, which included the masters to Taylor Swift's first six albums. The dispute between Swift and Ithaca made Braun the subject of much vilification from Swifties. As a result, Swift re-recorded those albums, launching the "Taylor's Version" series.

On June 21, the anticipated Outlaw Music Festival kicked off in Georgia - but without Willie Nelson, who was absent from the tour launch per doctor's orders. Announced a few hours before the show, the 91-year-old music legend was "not feeling well," with his medical team advising a rest of at least four days before resuming tour duties. Despite his absence, the tour began with performances from Bob Dylan, Robert Plant & Alison Krauss and Celisse. The tour visits Hersheypark Stadium on July 7.

R.E.M. took the stage together for a surprise performance at the Songwriters Hall of Fame ceremony at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City on June 13, marking the first time all four original members — Michael Stipe, Peter Buck, Mike Mills and Bill Berry — had played together in public in 15 years. R.E.M. disbanded in 2011 and the last time all four musicians performed together took place during their induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2007.

Rock Lititz in Lititz, Pennsylvania has now planned the opening of Rock Nashville, a creative hub, production facility and rehearsal space in Whites Creek area 10 miles north of downtown Nashville to open in fall 2025. Rock Nashville will

continued on page 14...

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Mad Macka of Cosmic Psychos

Nationals continued...

encompass roughly 40 acres of development on the 55-acre site. The project will include three buildings with a cumulative footprint of just over 514,000 square feet including 15 studios, two of which are purpose-built production rehearsal studios. The overall campus will include 13 band and production rehearsal studios and be homebase to 485 employees.

Washington, DC's HFStival was a staple of the summer for rock fans in our nation's capital in the 1990s and early 2000s. The fest returns after 13 years, scheduled for September 21 at Nationals Park. The lineup features The Postal Service performing Give Up, Death Cab For Cutie performing Transatlanticism, Incubus, Bush, Garbage, Jimmy Eat World, Girl Talk, Violent Femmes, Tonic, Filter and Lit.

Cyndi Lauper will be hitting the road for a headlining tour across North America this fall. The 1980s icon announced the "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Farewell Tour," a 23-date run which will have Lauper visiting iconic venues, including a show in her hometown of New York. The announcement coincides with the release of "Let the Canary Sing," a documentary that explores Lauper's life and career. Lauper's farewell tour visits Washington DC's Capital One Arena on Oct 27 and NYC Madison Square Garden on Oct 30.

Jennifer Lopez has canceled her arena tour that was supposed to mark her first trek in five years. The singer/actress/dancer didn't provide a reason for the cancellation but said she "wouldn't do this if I didn't feel that it was absolutely necessary." It was reported Lopez had called off seven dates due to weak ticket sales. Live Nation cited 'Jennifer is taking time off to be with her children, family and close friends." Earlier that same week, The Black Keys, also announced cancellation of their arena tour saying a revised set of dates in more intimate venues would be revealed soon.

JULY CONCERTS: The Bronx - Gilbert, PA Camp Punksylvania July 6. Janet Jackson - Hersheypark Stadium July 6. Willie Nelson Outlaw Festival - Hersheypark Stadium July 7. Brett Scallions (Fuel) - Brodheadville, PA Signature Events July 13. No Show Ponies / Surface Noise - Mechanicsburg Metropolis July 19. Drug Church - Amityville, NY Music Hall July 20. Foo Fighters - Hersheypark Stadium July 23. Tom Keifer (Cinderella) - Sayerville, NJ Starland Ballroom July 25. Orville Peck - Harrisburg Riverfront July 28.

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RIDER'S ON THE STORM

By Chris Rider

Summer's officially here, and it certainly came in with a bang going from cool Spring temps to highs that made me think maybe I made a mistake a few years ago when I gave up my office job to go work (mostly) outside. Wouldn't trade it for anything, and this job definitely works better most of the time in giving me time to enjoy live music. June made for a great month of music with a ton of friends, so I'm just going to get right to it.

The month started off with a bang at iRock Radio's Birthday Bash inside & outside Lovedrafts Brewing in Mechanicsburg. Hosted by 717 Entertainment, we helped Jay and the crew celebrate 10 years of bringing a huge variety of rock & metal to our earholes. Always a huge supporter of local, regional, national and even international music, iRock is a staple in the Central PA music scene and it was an honor to be there to capture it. With

bands like Nick Tauer Band, Pine Creek Academy, Carbonstone, Lives Lost, Lyndhurst, Sick Century, Dinosaurs in Paris, Defiant, Observe The 93rd, Madame Mayhem, Another Day Dawns, Eva Under Fire and 10 Years playing between the two stages, it made for a great day. Congrats Jay & iRock Family on an awesome 10 years, and here's to another 10 years of bringing the rock to all of us.

My next trip out was at the invite of the good folks in Bad Sister, a local cover band that started up relatively recently but has a lot of power and experience behind it. Covering rock hits from the 60s through now like Superstition, Kiss Me Deadly, Time after Time and more...they displayed great vocals backed by solid musicianship and probably the happiest drummer I've ever seen on stage LOL. I really enjoyed their song selections and

continued on page 18...

RADIO 45'S QUEST TO REACH NEW LISTENERS

Article by Jim Price

Pittsburgh-based power pop act Radio 45 is not your average local Pennsylvania rock band. From how they dress on stage – to selling their own tickets online – to recording the very best songs available to them (even if it means working with songwriters in Nashville) – to embracing the tribute band movement in order to get their original music in front of as many people as possible – these guys are DIFFERENT.

Internally, their approach to navigating Pennsylvania's indie music scene is referred to as "playing chess, not checkers." Radio 45 is playing the long game, using strategic moves to reach goal after goal after goal. They don't like to talk about it. Why? Because it's hard for many people – especially musicians – to understand the value in this approach. "Nobody gets it at first," says Radio 45 founder C. Scott Gilbert (known outside the band as "Mr. White", Radio 45's Manager). And because they think of it as "giving away their secret sauce."

So what is Radio 45 doing?

Since their onset, multi-instrumentalist and singer C. Scott Gilbert, lead singer and lead guitarist Aaron Greer, lead singer and guitarist Gary Bickerstaff, and drummer, percussionist and singer Mark "M-Sexy" Wesesky have set out to create and record great music that they can use to build a streaming portfolio. The group's mission is to record 50 songs between now and 2030.

Part of that creation is to collaborate with songwriters in Nashville and Los Angeles to find the best songs out there, breathe new life into them, and record and make them their own. According to Scott, "We're looking for the best radio-friendly songs we can find."

Since the release of their four-song debut EP "Transcendence" last year, Radio 45 has issued three subsequent singles, which can be streamed on their website and on various streaming platforms: the songs "Anti-Gravity," "Happily Ever Over" and a cover of Cheap Trick's "I Can't Take It."

Their game plan has worked so far, as audiences have discovered and embraced Radio 45's brand of music – labeled by some as the "new Knack" (the group responsible for the 1979 hit single "My Sharona") and compared to the early dawn of 80s new wave and MTV. Attendance at the group's live shows has steadily grown as well.

As they pursue their objective of making records, they realized the challenges facing them. As Scott explains, "The art of making a record is very expensive – from licensing songs to studio time to making sure the musicians are paid, gas money and all that stuff. It adds up, so we thought – we love playing live, there's a lot of great songs by a lot of musicians out there. We thought we'd work into the tribute band avenue a little bit, because it's a way for us to earn a little more money and pay for our recording habit. And at the same time, it gives us a bigger audience to play our original songs, too."

This led into the advent of two tribute band side projects – their Tom Petty tribute group Petty 45 and their U2 tribute U245. Both projects were born out of the respect and admiration the band members have for both artists.

"I think that he is truly an American treasure," said Gary about Tom Petty; "…I think everyone is a Tom Petty fan."

For Aaron, a viable tribute project should ultimately be about the music. "A lot of tribute bands will make an effort to look the part – which I think is all fine and good. With Petty 45, we thought it would be borderline ridiculous if we went out there and tried to dress and look like him." Aaron's goal in learning to perform Petty's music is to be true to the songs, and "…Pay homage to that music and to those songs, and capture all the tones and the sounds and the vibe of it all while being ourselves." As part of that, Aaron sweated the details to study the guitar tones, audio techniques and other aspects to sound as close to Petty's guitar work as possible. Aaron also has created some videos on the group's website, www.radio45.net, that document his process in capturing the various nuances of Petty's guitar style.

In building the Petty 45 tribute, the group also utilizes videos and home movies of Tom Petty onstage during their shows to honor the man as well as his music.

U245 also was born with an admiration and fascination of U2. According to Scott, "U2 was my favorite band since I was a teenager…1984 'Red Rocks' while I was in college and finding my own musical identity back in those days."

As in Petty 45, Aaron was drawn in by a fascination with the actual complexity and detail of U2's music; describing U2 guitarist The Edge as an artist and "painter."

Gary found fascination with the spiritual side of U2 – from his own experience in Christian music, he described U2 as "the bridge from being a church person to playing 'secular' music."

Thus far, Radio 45 and Petty 45 have performed busy show schedules in western Pennsylvania. Music fans will be able to experience both tribute projects later this month as part of the entertainment slate at the **30th Annual People's Choice Festival of Pennsylvania Arts & Crafts** at Grange Park in Centre Hall. U245 will make its official onstage debut at the festival on Thursday, July 11th, while Petty 45 will entertain to close out Saturday, July 13th. Petty 45 will also perform at the **Jefferson County Fair** in Brookville on Wednesday, July 17th, opening for Creedence Clearwater Revival tribute Fortunate Son. A listing of all of the group's upcoming shows can be found on their website, **www.radio45.net**.

Radio 45's trajectory continues forward, as their unique approach to generating music has grown a fan base and following. The group hopes that their tribute band projects will continue to add to that fan base.

For those interested in the group's tribute band endeavors, Gary's advice is: "Anything that ends in '45' – is us!"

Photos by Digital Noise Photography

they're style on stage, I would definitely recommend checking them out sometime when you have the chance!

Next up was my annual trip down to the New River Gorge in West Virginia for my favorite festival: Waynestock. Granted, I didn't make it the last two years due to High School graduations, so this year was a little extra special for me as I was really looking forward to getting back. On top of that, I was excited to share this experience with Wendy, being her first year there. It's impossible to sum up everything that makes this event so awesome in the limited space that I have here, but consider this: great hiking trails, beautiful white water rafting, horseback rides, zip lining, mountain biking, and probably any other outdoor activity you can imagine combined with evenings of great music on a stage that would honestly rival many bigger festivals. Local bands Gillian Smith, Cass And The Bailout Crew, Coltt Winter Lepley, Rivers, and The Roof hit the stage with a number of other regional bands to put on three nights of what I can only describe as musical magic. Maybe a lame description, but it's honest. While I did do some photography work, I also made sure to step back and just enjoy the experience and soak it all in. Wendy and I are already looking forward to next year's festival and I'd love to see even more folks from our area make the trip down for it. I guarantee you won't regret it!

A few days after we got back from Waynestock I headed down to The Doyle Hotel in Duncannon for some dinner & tunes provided by Rob Mordan out of Shamokin. I walked in to find Rob already playing, starting off with a great cover of Fosum Prison. He followed that up with a wide variety of covers including Fuel's "Shimmer", Tom Petty's "Learning To Fly", and a song from Bare Naked Ladies that I can't remember the last time I'd heard it, "The Old Apartment". Rob did a great job of taking each of his selected songs and making in his own style which is always something that I really enjoy hearing.

I headed down to Lovedraft's Brewing again a few days later after a strong invite from my buddies in Coal for another 717 Entertainment show. Coal kicked the evening off with a bang cranking out their Alt-Hard Rock originals for a decent sized Sunday crowd. I've worked with Dal and the guys a few times now and each time I am struck by how far I've seen them come in the time I've known them. Coal was followed by a group that needs no introduction to these pages: Observe The 93rd. Cranking out their original tunes to a bunch of fans that sang along with them, the guys put on a great show as always. Headlining the evening was a new collaboration between Arejay Hale of Halstorm and Taylor Carroll of Lit called KemikalFire. I felt fortunate to be able to capture one of their first live performances. Their set was solid with very high energy performing their original tunes like Dead And Gone, The Drop, and more. I have to imagine we'll be

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hearing quite a bit more from this interesting duo.

My last trip out was across the river to the first "Peace Of Mind Music In The Park" located at MYO Park in Millersburg. This park was a beautiful setting for an evening music event with performances by Axe & Fiddle, Jelli, and Hunter Root. There were a few food, drink and craft vendors set up and the evening's music was kicked off by an hour long open mic. Axe & Fiddle then took the stage. It's been a bit since I've seen Jason and Caleb play, so it was great to hear them bring their original bluegrass/Americana style tunes like Swim Swim Swim and Black Cat Blues to the park. Jelli took the stage next with their "Hippie Funk Rock" that was an unusual mix of bluegrass, folk, rock, funk and even some metal undertones to it. Deep thumping bass guitar surrounded by sweet guitar melodies and percussion just flowed through their all original tunes. Capping off the evening was Hunter Root and his band. This was my first time catching Hunter's newest project, although I've been listening to it since it started. Cranking out tunes like Little Red Riding Hood, Identity, and two absolute Rippers (Hunter's words, not mine LOL): Town Rat Heathen and Run From The Devil; Hunter and the guys did a great job capping off the first Music In The Park event. The next Music In The Park events are July 19th and August 16th and definitely worth checking out!

So there it is, my month of music through my eyes and ears. I want to once again thank all the bands, venues, and everyone else involved in our incredible local music scene for everything they do. Just a reminder: if you've got a show coming up that I should see; make sure to send me an invite, shoot me an email or a message, let me know about it. Venues: please don't hesitate to reach out to me as well. The majority of the shows that I go and shoot I find out about through invites from all of you or your friends. Hit me up on facebook: @chrisriderphotography or email: chrisriderphotography@gmail.com, stop me if you see me around and say hi. Until next month...go find some live music and give them and the venue your support, they truly need it more now than they ever did.

hot shots continued on next page

Cass & The Bailout Crew

Bad Sister

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THE PROFESSOR

By Jim Price

The outdoor live music season reaches its full stride this month, with various festivals, concerts, benefits and other outdoor shows populating the schedule throughout the region. Get out and enjoy them while you can!

Roundhouse Harley-Davidson in Duncansville is again hosting the PA Roundhouse Rally events each month from May through Labor Day weekend. Their three-day Memorial Day weekend rally opened on Thursday with "Bike Night" and live music from The Pines. Singer Daman Mills, guitarist Logan Warner, bassist and keyboardist Alex Snyder and drummer Ben Brumbaugh mixed it up with a wide variety of rock'n'roll favorites – everything from 60s hits from the Beatles and Doors to 70s gems from Foghat, Billy Joel and Wild Cherry; 80s favorites from Poison and The Romantics to 90s tunes from Soundgarden, Pearl Jam, Weezer, Red Hot Chili Peppers, their original songs "That's All Right," "Shoot to Kill" and more…The Friday leg of the Roundhouse continued the live music with two bands; Altoona's Ages brought the classic rock, as singer Mike Castine, guitarist Tyler Bryan, and the father-and-son rhythm tandem of drummer Jerry Naugle and bassist Jacob Naugle sounded strong on numbers from Jimi Hendrix, Cream, the Doors, ZZ Top, Marshall Tucker Band, Deep Purple, Black Sabbath and more. Hair Force One then capped the night with their celebration of 80s hair band rock. This group has a new bass player since the last time I saw them, with Finn Gürer taking over the four strings, joining singer Victor Synn, guitarists Michael J. Cox and Milo Nuttz, and drummer Shawn Toppuver. Hair Force instantly packed the floor in front of the stage with fans as they did favorites from Poison, Motley Crue, Cinderella, Guns N'Roses, Bon Jovi, Scorpions, Ratt, Quiet Riot and more. They kept the crowd riding at a feverish high through their two sets, and answered demands for an encore with Motley Crue's "Girls Girls Girls" to close the night… Three bands then performed on Saturday, with teen rockers Open Ends opening the action; singer and guitarist Tyler Bollman, new bass player Noah Martin and drummer Gino Passanita delivered their powerful set with poise and confidence, firing off a variety of rocking favorites from Green Day, Ramones, John Mellencamp, Elvis Presley, The Kinks, Sponge, Seven Mary Three, Alice In Chains, the Offspring, and several of their own original songs as well. Avenue Of Kings then rocked a "captive" audience as arriving thunderstorms drove folks inside the stage structure; singer Matt Stoyanoff, lead guitarist Chris Silva, rhythm guitarist Joe Lybarger, bassist Beau Cabassa and drummer Randy Wilson delivered plentiful and powerful 80s-era rock from Judas Priest, Metallica, Iron Maiden, Guns N'Roses, Poison, Whitesnake, Megadeth, Firehouse and more. Onlookers experienced a pleasant surprise before the final band of the Rally, as a quick wedding happened on the stage; with Land Of Ozz frontman and "Ozzy" Stephen J. Desko (who is ordained) presiding, Roundhouse Rally team member Brent and wife Manndi were united in matrimony before of a festive crowd. Philadelphia's Land Of Ozz then provided the "reception" with the music of Ozzy Osbourne. Stephen in the "Ozzy" role; the father-and-sons tandem of dad Mike Stanley on rhythm guitar, Nate Stanley on drums and "Randy Rhoads" Matt Stanley on lead guitar; plus Mike Vivial on keys and former Krank bassist Frank Mercer brought all the Ozzy favorites and craziness, including favorites like "Over the Mountain," "I Don't Know," "Perry Mason," "No More Tears," "Mama I'm Coming Home," "Mr. Crowley," "Flying High Again" and – of course – "Crazy Train." They also broke out some deeper Ozzy tracks such as "Revelation Mother Earth/Steal Away the Night," "S.A.T.O." and "Believer," and some Ozzy-era Black Sabbath favorites such as "Children of the Grave" and "Paranoid." Land Of Ozz kept the energy level high, with "Ozzy" parading the stage, and Matt providing precision guitar fireworks early and often…The next PA Roundhouse Rally happens July 25-27.

Daman Mills & Logan Warner of The Pines

Michael J. Cox of Hair Force One

Tyler Bryan of Ages

Polka fun time again took over Johnstown's People's Natural Gas (PNG) Park in early June for the 26th annual 1st Summit Johnstown PolkaFest. I took in a good portion of the middle day, Saturday, and saw several performers. Local polka favorites Rosie & the Jammers – who formed for the very first PolkaFest in 1997 – were under way as I arrived. Namesake, accordionist and keyboardist Rosie Sida, singer and keyboardist Jim Mosey, accor-

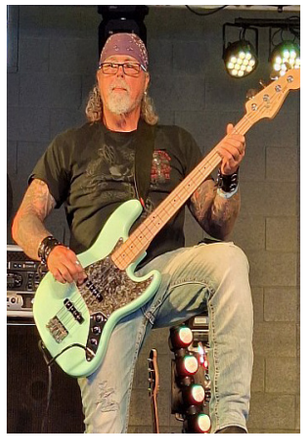
continue on next page...

The Professor continued...

dionist and singer Eric Furfari, and sax players Brian Regala and Brian Anater played plentiful polkas plus several pop, rock'n'roll and country standards. They triggered enthusiastic polka dancing on the floor, and it was great to hear Jim's high-ranging singing voice once again. Following them, Cleveland's Don Wojtila Band and Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push alternated two sets each back and forth on the main stage. Eight members strong including namesake Don on accordion plus the Wojtila Brothers Joe, Michael and Dan, the Don Wojtila Band mixed up various polkas, waltzes, and their own arrangements on popular hits during their sets; keeping the dance floor busy as they went. Some of their highlights included their popular "Beer Drinking Song," the rowdy "Ee-I-Ee-I-Oh" polka, their versions of John Denver's "Take Me Home Country Roads," Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues" and more. A member of the International Polka Hall Of Fame, Lenny Gomulka has played polka music for more than 50 years, and developed the "push" style of polka music through his group. Lenny and Chicago Push delivered spirited and feisty sets, with many uptempo polka numbers such as the "Kiss Me I'm Polish Polka," "The Fisherman's Polka," "Brothers and Sisters Polka," "Witchdoctor Polka," "Holiday in Poland Polka" and many more.

Stephen J. Desko ("Ozzy") of Land of Ozz

Many locales celebrate their people with special community-themed events through the summer season. The Nanty Glo Fire Department hosted their three-day Nanty Glo Community Days event early last month. I attended the Saturday leg of the event, with Johnstown rockers Octane providing the high-octane music. From the get-go, Octane – singer Mike Prebehalla, guitarists Kenny Murdick and Ian Kordish-Murdick (with a cameo appearance by Joe Lybarger), bassist Dave Bambino and drummer Chris Jimerson – had folks up and dancing to a variety of rocking favorites spanning the 1970s to present. Octane had something for nearly everyone, playing modern rock favorites from Killers, Fall Out Boy and Good Charlotte to metal classics from Metallica, Ozzy Osbourne and Motley Crue, plus hits from Journey, REO Speedwagon, Def Leppard, Rolling Stones and much more. Mike demonstrated a powerful, high-ranging voice that handled all of Octane's setlist, while Kenny showed his guitar finesse early and often, and Dave and Chris provided the high-powered rhythm section behind it all. When the packed dance floor demanded the encore at night's end, Octane responded with the heavy artillery – ending the night with the double-shot of Pantera's "Cowboys From Hell" (by request) and Drowning Pool's "Bodies."



Beau Cabassa of Avenue of Kings

When "The Reigning Queen of Beale Street" Barbara Blue kicked off the "Music in the Burg" concert series last month at Hollidaysburg's Canal Basin Park, it became an evening blues-based doubleheader with Felix & the Hurricanes. A Pittsburgh native and career blues singer who earned her nickname from performing five nights a week for nearly 25 years at Silky O'Sullivan's on Memphis' Beale Street, Barbara Blue and her band – including three-piece horn section – electrified the audience with spirited and spunky blues and soul sounds. She immediately set the tone with her bold opener and statement of purpose "My Heart Belongs to the Blues," before celebrating Memphis with "Meet Me in Memphis." She did a number of songs off her latest CD, "From the Shoals" (see the CD review elsewhere in this issue) – including "The Shoals," "Nutthouse Blues," "Curse of Beauty," the funky "Nothing Lasts Forever" and her feisty rendition of Etta James' "Tell Mama." Celebrating her birthday, Barbara delivered her big and soulful voice, and eagerly shared her joy and a few stories with the audience between songs. And a big highlight was when Felix Kos and drummer Bob Watters of the Hurricanes joined Barbara onstage for several songs; it was exciting to witness Felix and Barbara's guitar ace, Davor "Hutch" Hăcić, blending their guitar talents on the Allman Brothers triple-shot of "Jessica," "Whipping Post" and "Ramblin' Man."

After Barbara Blue's concert finished, the party relocated to Altoona's Black & Gold Tavern, as Felix & the Hurricanes closed out their Sunday night residency at this venue with an unforgettable blues-rocking wallop! Felix, Bob, Randy Rutherford on bass and Dave Villani on keys started off with their blend of classic, southern and blues rock favorites – including numbers from Molly Hatchet, ZZ Top, the Doors, Marshall Tucker Band, Steely Dan, Lynyrd Skynyrd and more.

continue on next page...

Barbara Blue, "The Reigning Queen of Beale St.

Gino Passanita of Open Ends

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The Professor continued...

Then special guests arrived – Barbara Blue, plus her guitarist "Hutch" and drummer Joe Cunningham. After a special blue-icing birthday cake for Barbara was shared out among audience members during intermission, the musical fun escalated as all three guests joined the Hurricanes onstage. After the instrumentalists joined in for songs from Delbert McClinton, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Eric Clapton, Barbara sang lead on several songs, including the Allman Brothers' "Midnight Rider," Carole King's "It's Too Late," a duet version of Bonnie Raitt's "I Can't Make You Love Me" with Dave and more. Again, Felix and "Hutch" blended their guitar talents for exciting displays on songs such as Gary Moore's "Still Got the Blues," Molly Hatchet's "Flirtin' with Disaster," Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Gimme Three Steps" and Pat Travers' "Snortin' Whiskey." When the ecstatic crowd called for the encore, Felix, "Hutch" and the Hurricanes ended the festivities with Steve Miller Band's "The Joker" and The Outlaws' "Green Grass and High Tides."

Felix Kos with Davor "Hutch" Hacic of the Barbara Blue Band

Last month's outdoor SummerFest at Levity Brewing Co.'s downtown Altoona location enabled me to see a brand new area band – RighteousNow – as they played their first full-band show. This group features six skilled musicians; including the sibling singing tandem of Natalie and Andrae Holsey, acoustic guitarist and singer Matt Sheedy, bassist Kevin Neely, guitarist Matt Markham and drummer Erich Walls. Together, they kept the mood festive and fun with their fresh-sounding mix of acoustic-driven rock and soul favorites. Natalie, Andrae and Matt all displayed smooth and soulful voices as RighteousNow introduced fresh-sounding arrangements on such numbers as Grover Washington, Jr.'s "Just the Two of Us," Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," Gnarls Barkley's "Crazy," the mash-up of Dispatch's "Out Loud" with Bob Marley's "Stir It Up" and "Get Up, Stand Up," plus songs from The Animals, Chris Stapleton, Johnny Cash, Roberta Flack, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Dolly Parton and more.

Formerly known as Challenger Deep, The Dang Band – now based in Pittsburgh – made their maiden Altoona visit last month during the inaugural Wingfest Express event at Altoona's Railroaders Memorial Museum. As hungry chicken wing enthusiasts sampled and voted for their favorite wings from eight different competing eateries, The Dang Band – singer Hay Hal, acoustic guitarist and singer Brian Lasinski and acoustic guitarist Maxwell Knott (drummer Lisle Weaver was not available this day) – performed a blend of acoustic favorites. Since I was doing live radio duties at this event, I only got to catch a few of The Dang Band's songs; their versions of Blues Traveler's "Hook," the Rolling Stones' "Dead Flowers" and James' "Laid" all sounded good.

It had been many moons since Emily's Toybox had last played on an Altoona stage, but that drought ended in late May when the group brought their brand of rocking decadence to Altoona's Concordia Society. Group founding member Mike Wise still lead the way on lead vocals, flanked by guitarist Brandon Reese, bassist Rick Lienhard (formerly of Clove) and drummer Muff. It couldn't have been more appropriate that the song Emily's Toybox was playing as I entered the Concordia was their ever-popular "Bionic," with the large dance floor crowd shouting back the call about a body part smelling like Chapstick. True to form, Emily's Toybox mixed some of their original songs with their uniquely fractured takes on popular songs, generating dancing and laughter along the way. Mike offered an R-rated take on Bon Jovi's "Living on A Prayer," plus funny lyrical variations to Wild Cherry's "Play That Funky Music," Walk The Moon's "Shut Up and Dance" and more. Brandon sang lead on Tom Petty's "American Girl" and The Killers' "Mr. Brightside," and the group rocked the floor with songs from Def Leppard, Puddle Of Mudd, Buck Cherry, Disturbed, and their rowdy original "Back of the Bus" to end their last set. When the crowd yelled for an encore, Emily's Toybox answered with versions of Metallica's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and Drowning Pool's Bodies." Still a rowdy good time – Emily's Toybox returns to the Concordia in November.

Mike Wise of Emily's Toybox

Donny Death of Hate Grendade

Rosie Sida of Rosie & the Jammers

Live music started recently at the Westwood Bar & Grill in Johnstown, and I visited there last month to catch my blues fix courtesy of the Stone Bridge Blues Band. Singer and bassist Brian Moore, lead guitarist and singer Mike Borstnar, guitarist Jake Moore, harmonica player Rick Rhodes and drummer John Mundy played classic electric blues favorites from such names as Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Willie Dixon, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Albert Collins, Delbert McClinton, the Allman Broth-

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ers and others. During their nightcap set, the group welcomed a number of guests up to do some classic rock favorites from Bad Company and AC/DC, and guest Dave Distefano sang and played guitar on a fiery version of Bill Withers' "Use Me." The group finished out with a fiery version of B.B. King's classic "The Thrill Is Gone," with Mike and Rick trading licks on guitar and harmonica. The Stone Bridge Blues Band was scheduled to open for Williamsport bluesman Gabe Stillman in late June at People's Natural Gas Field in Johnstown; look for the review of that show in next month's column.

Hate Grenade headlined a four-band metal music triple-bill at McGarvey's early last month. I missed openers SamarA, who took over the opening slot late after scheduled openers End Bringer had to bow out. I arrived as Theriaca was performing; based in the Ohio Valley just west of Pittsburgh, this group – singer and guitarist Kyle Batenburg, guitarists Brennan Davies and Nate Kepner, bassist Cory Wiley and drummer Bryce Barrett – introduced a melody-geared brand of nu- and power-metal as they did songs from their album "A Different Shade of Grey." Theriaca's songs demonstrated firepower, melody and some progressive elements, and their execution was tight and powerful. Next was Columbus, Ohio-based foursome FiveByFive, who delivered incendiary rap-laced metal. FiveByFive provided constant grooves, movement and explosiveness throughout their set of original songs, and closed out the set with a version of Limp Bizkit's "Break Stuff." Eleven years and one day after their debut show on this very stage, Hate Grenade celebrated the occasion with their volatile set of nu-metal and rap-metal. Singer Jeff Glace, guitarist Chuck Lavera, bassist Donny Death and drummer Mike Powers did many of the songs from their latest album "iSociety" – including the title song, "Hollywood," "Bind," "My Hell," "R/X," "Ghosts" and "Chaos." Hate Grenade also pulled out "Left Behind" from their debut EP, "One of a Kind" off their "Pull the Pin" album and the title track from "The King Is Dead." Hate Grenade is at work on new songs toward their next album, and they will be rejoining national recording group (hed)PE at Blue Fox Billiards in Winchester, Virginia on August 31.

For the Giants Of Science, the show must go on…Faced with no available drummer for one of their shows last month at the 4D's Lounge, the group "rewired" things this night so the show could go on. Frontman and guitarist Mick took over behind the drum kit – a left-handed kit at that – while Mike Fox of area country-rockers K4 Kountry handled lead guitar and vocals in the early going. Midway through the night, though, stability returned to the Giants Of Science continuum, as Eric Wertz – who handled drumming the night before and whose kit was on the stage – showed up after an earlier gig he was involved with to provide the drum beats for the rest of the night. Through it all, the Giants didn't miss a beat, keeping the Dees' dance floor packed with their upbeat mixture of 80s-era pop and rock classics and other fun songs. Whatever it takes, the Giants Of Science brought the party – watch for their numerous area appearances throughout this month!

I caught a few songs from Silver Linings' outdoor performance last month during the Grand Opening Weekend of

continued on next page...

Rich & John of Lennny Gomulka & Chicago Push

Andrae Holsey of Righteous Now

Dave Bambino of Octane

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814 Distillery at Oak Spring Winery's Altoona location. Both playing acoustic guitars and singing, Rick Wertz and Michelle Barnes sounded pleasant and crisp on their renditions of Jackson Browne's "Doctor My Eyes," Linda Ronstadt's "Blue Bayou," K.T. Tunstall's "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" and more. The folks gathered enjoyed the pair's blend of voices, harmonies and musicianship; and apparently a reptilian was enjoying the show as well, as a 3-4 foot-long black snake slithered from a shadowy corner over the lot and past the stage before disappearing into its adjacent woodland home just seconds after the performance concluded!

Other performances I enjoyed in recent weeks included 90s Rising – the one-night merger of Autumn Rising and Without Zerb – as they partied down a lively audience at McGarvey's last month…The PennSoulvanians as they brought their funky brand of musical joy to the 4D's Lounge on Memorial Day weekend…Zac Grace and Eric Wertz as they provided the pregame concert early last month before the Altoona Curve-Portland Sea Dogs baseball game at People's Natural Gas Field…and I again got to watch and play percussion with Wasted Talent during one of their weekly Thursday night jams at the Roaring Spring VFW.

Brian Moore of Stone Bridge Blues Band

News and notes…Returning this month after two years away will be the Route 22 Rock & Blues Festival, happening July 12-13 at Lincoln Caverns Campground hear Huntingdon; performing will be The PennSoulvanians, Hot Fudge Mondaes, Kevo Can't Dance, Alice In Chains tribute Deny Your Maker,

Rick Wertz & Michelle Barnes of The Silver Linings

Strait & Miller, Mysterytrain, On The Brink, Abstentious, Juju Bone, Black Sun, The Zuds, Walkney and Maul…The Jeremy Edge Project, Screamin' Egrets, Jack Squat, Xorillion, 7th Virtue, Jack Squat, Ganister and Donimo will perform at this year's "We Care Music Fest," happening July 20 at Shawnee Park in Roaring Spring with proceeds benefiting the We Care Foundation of Central PA…The 11th annual "Wam Bam Mountain Jam" takes place on July 6 at 1547 East Mountain Road near Port Matilda; performing will be Liv and the Juveniles, The Narrows, Luke & Steve & Paul, JCKT UP, The Roof, Cajons & Cajones, Homegrown, Daystruck, Forester Grey, Donny Burns & the 3rd Degree, Goatsmoker, the Sorters, Dickie & the Boys, and Sidewinder – Admission is free…Wam Bam will be the final appearance for the time being for The Roof, who announced that they are taking a hiatus and separating to pursue individual projects…Van Wagner recently began recording an album with State College blues rocker Kevin Briggs; the two musicians have been recording original songs at Steve Treado's Hedgerow Recording Studio near State College. The album will be called "Briggs and Wagner: 12 Horsepower"…Good luck to area musician and broadcaster Don Bedell, who is

Lyndsay Reilly of The PennSoulvanians

departing the area this month to continue his broadcasting career in Maine; besides his work in commercial and public radio, Don has sung and played guitar in such area band projects as Your Dad's Friends, The Centrefugues and others, and he has also been part of The Screaming Ducks' 40th anniversary tour…Currently the bass player for Huntingdon group Reboot, musician Brian Smith announced that he will be stepping away from the group after their remaining schedule of shows this summer and retiring from music, cited his family and job as reasons for the decision…And sad news from the Johnstown music scene in late June with the unexpected passing of Sam Paonessa, the owner and operator of popular live music venue Slammin Sam's in Johnstown. Sam is survived by his wife and daughters.

Please send correspondence and recordings to: Jim Price, 1104 S. Catherine St., Altoona, PA 16602. You can also e-mail me at jptheprofessor@gmail.com. And if you're into social networking, look me up on Facebook. SUPPORT LOCAL MUSIC!

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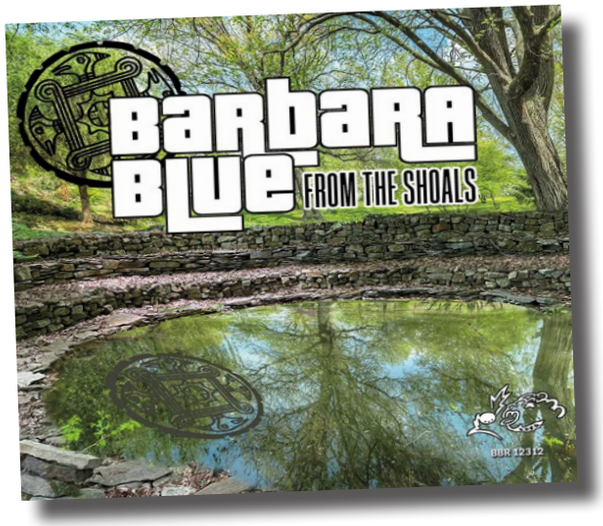
By Jim Price



BARBARA BLUE – *FROM THE SHOALS*
(BIG Blue Records)

A Pittsburgh native, Barbara Blue started singing at an early age, putting on backyard concerts as a teenager. She eventually fronted a Detroit blues band during her college years before returning to Pittsburgh to front another blues group six nights a week for more than 10 years. Her journey then took her to Memphis in 1997, where she landed a gig at Silky O'Sullivan's on Beale Street, performing five nights a week for nearly 25 years – earning her the title "The Reigning Queen of Beale Street."

Along the way, Barbara has performed and/or recorded with such names as Taj Mahal, Ronnie Earl, Maceo Parker and many others; toured internationally with five visits to Australia and appearances at multiple blues festivals, and has released seven studio albums and three live albums.

On her latest album, "From the Shoals," Barbara belts out a robust and passionate voice over 13 stirring tracks, with a strong cast of musicians to help bring her blues to life – the rhythm section of drummer Bernard "Pretty" Purdie and bassist David Hood, the keyboard tandem of B3 and Wurlitzer player Clayton Ivey and pianist Mark Narmore, the dual guitar contingent of Will McFarlane and Davor "Hutch" Hacic, the horn section of saxman Brad Guin and trumpeter Marc Franklin, and backing singer Kimberlie Helton. Keys and horns prominently drive the album-opener "The Shoals," where Barbara celebrates the influential musical center where the album was recorded: Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Likewise, the bold 12-bar blues number "Nutthouse Blues" references the studio where she recorded the album, Nutthouse Studios in Sheffield, Alabama (outside Muscle Shoals).

Barbara honors a key influence – Etta James – by delivering sincere and soulful reads to two songs that Etta recorded in 1967, her biggest-charting hit "Tell Mama" and "Steal Away." She addresses the problem of our divided and spiteful society on the slow and serious "Severed." Barbara also gets downright funky on "Nothing Lasts Forever," muses about attraction on the slinky "Curse Of Beauty" and offers some double-entendre playfulness on the 12-bar blues of "Slide Man," presents some heart-tugging slow blues on "Lost Young Love" and "Too Far," and reminisces Pittsburgh romance on "Never Stopped Loving You."

Co-written by Barbara and "Hutch" are two emotionally powerful numbers that close the album, the spiritual-toned "Song Of The River" and the swaggering "Trails of Tears"; both respectively referencing Native Americans who lived along Alabama's Tennessee River – "The Singing River" – and the plight of those "Five Civilized Tribes" as they were forcibly relocated westward by the government between 1830 and 1850.

There's never a doubt that Barbara is the centerpiece of this album, as her voice radiates enthusiasm, energy and powerful emotion through the entire set. Her band skillfully backs and surrounds her vocals, while establishing just the right instrumental mood for each song, whether bold and brash or quiet and peaceful. Engineered by Jimmy Nutt and assistant Jonathan Moody, this album sounds clear, sturdy and vibrant.

Barbara dedicated this album in loving memory of her mother, Rose, who passed in 2021. Barbara Blue easily lives up to her title of "Reigning Queen of Beale Street" on "From The Shoals," as she delivers passionate, powerful and emotion-shaking blues and soul from start to end. An excellent listen!

(The album can be accessed through online streaming services, and obtained through the website www.barbarablue.com.)

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WANTED: Collinsville Discount Band in York seeks experienced male baritone. Must harmonize with 2 others. Mixed genres. Covers and originals. Instrument a plus. Booked 2024. CollinsvilleDiscountBand@gmail.com

WANTED: Lead Guitar and Keyboard Player. Christian rock band in Reading, PA area. 90s Alt Rock/Grunge Influences. Contact Brendon: 610-207-7530, mrweaverface@gmail.com,

WANTED: Lead Guitar Player to join the central PA band Jenocide. Singing ability is a plus. Good attitude a must. Jenocide plays rock from the 1980's to present day Call Kevin @ 717-723-7275

WANTED: Any metal drummers in need of an original heavy metal band around the Camp Hill/ Dillsburg area?-looking for someone between ages 20-35. email: rearmolt@gmail.com or mgardner191@gmail.com or text us at 717-677-1761 or 717-926-5043

WANTED: Drummer to complete line up. Doing Fixx, INXS, Modern English, Flock of Seagulls, etc Call Robbie 717-668-1543

WANTED: Annville vocalist seeks Guitarist able to play leads and sing vocal harmonies for rock duo. Songs span The Beatles to Soundgarden. Owen5529@gmail.com

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AVAILABLE: Bass Player with vocals looking for 80's/90's Rock band. Good Attitude, Looking for same. Reading, Berks County Area. Good Equipment. Looking to play out. Call:484-345-0266

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AVAILABLE: Littlestown Banjo player/singer looking to join a Bluegrass, Country or Gospel band call "Banjo" Dan Evans: 443-547-3058

AVAILABLE: Metal head guitar player, song writer looking to join or start a band in Williamsport call 717-694-7176 email tinkerbutt099@gmail.com

AVAILABLE: "Rock metal blues" Experienced guitar player songwriter looking to join or start a band and the Williamsport area. 717-694-7176 email demonkind2023@gmail.com

AVAILABLE: Drummer with over 30 years experience seeks to form/join rock band like Izzy Stradlin and the Juju Hounds. Text Shannon at 717-300-9269

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THE APURNA PROJECT/PINKY'S BRAINS/13 CAVITIES/INDEYEVID
SATURDAY, JULY 13 @ 7PM PUNK/HARDCORE
FEAR OF GOD/HOMILY/INDICTMENTS/KILL JOHN
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